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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Michael OFFENHUBER et al.  
Based on : PCT/DE2004/001984  
Docket No. : R.305991  
Customer No. : 02119

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**SUBMISSION OF PRIOR ART**

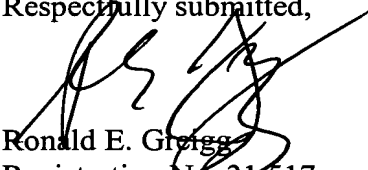
Sir:

The undersigned hereby requests that the prior art cited on the attached form PTO/SB/08a be printed on the bibliographic page of any patent issuing from this application.

The prior art listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08a is prior art which was cited in a Search Report for the International Application which ultimately translated under 35 U.S.C. 371 into this U.S. application.

In the event that the Patent and Trademark Office has not already obtained copies from WIPO, copies of this prior art are enclosed for the examiner's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Date: May 3, 2006

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)			<b>Complete if Known</b>	
			Application Number	
			Filing Date	
			First Named Inventor	
			Art Unit	
			Examiner Name	
Sheet 1 of 1			Attorney Docket Number R.305991	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> <i>(if known)</i>			
		US-	2003/0033799 A1	02-20-2003	Gerd Scheying	
		US-	5,884,475 A	03-23-1999	Lothar Hofmann et al.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		WO	03/016687	A1	02-27-2003	Bernd Mahr		
		DE	44 32 576	A1	03-14-1996	Lothar Hofmann et al.		✓
		DE	100 47 512	A1	08-22-2002	Sven Huber et al.		
		DE	199 46 900	A1	12-28-2000	Walter Frisch et al.		
		EP	0 928 884	A2	07-14-1999	Horst Hamdorf		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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